

WASHINGTON CITY:  
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 11.

We trust that persons disposed to use the advertising columns of the *Star*, will remember that payment is required in advance, in all cases, for advertisements, except those sent by quarterly or yearly advertisers.

## THE WEEKLY STAR.

This valuable weekly visitor continues to be as interesting as ever. Its columns are filled with local news, Washington news and gossip, foreign and domestic news, tales, gems of poetry, and interesting personal matters.

PERSONS AT A DISTANCE SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THE WEEKLY STAR CONTAINS MORE WASHINGTON LOCAL NEWS AND VALUABLE INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT, THAN ALL OTHER WASHINGTON PAPERS, DAILY OR WEEKLY, COMBINED. WHILE IT IS FURNISHED AT THE LOW PRICE OF ONE DOLLAR AND A QUARTER A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

## SPIRIT OF THE MORNING PRESS.

The *Intelligencer* seems to be satisfied that the results of the recent interior New York municipal elections, wherein the Whigs have been victorious for the most part, have been all owing to the Nebraska bill. The same journal contains an earnest argument against that measure from the pen of some statesman, of whose claim to be heard by the southern Whigs, the editor speaks in flattering terms. He also rejoices over the passage of the Miss Dix bill, for the benefit of the Indigent Insane, through the Senate.

The *Intelligencer* further contains a notice of an interesting letter from Commodore Isaac Mayo (in command of our African coast squadron) wherein that officer describes the condition and prospects of the Liberia colony in glowing terms.

The *Union* cautions the public against the anti-Nebraska bill labors of the class of persons and journals, who, while professing devotion to it, seek to use it as a means of embarrassing the National Administration. We have time and again pointed out the fact that there are really the deadliest enemies of the measure.

The *Sentinel* discusses new light women, giving them a "first rate notice"—over the left, the old, ugly, crabbed, he-she-uns, or she-he-uns, which ever they may be, get little mercy at the *Sentinel's* hands.

## WEST POINT CADETS.

A city cotemporary, with whom we but seldom hold community of sentiment, after giving the name and parentage of the Cadets at large, recently appointed by the President, says:

"The high respectability of the parents and amount of all above-named youths, no doubt reflects great credit upon the discernment and appreciation of the President; and yet we must confess, on reading the list, we have felt disappointed and mortified at not finding in it the names of several worthy and well-approved aspirants. Jonathan Furrow, Philip Ploughboy, Jeremiah Josephine, Rodrick Laphone, and Clement Grist, are all well-known. Had this been the early usage of our Government, how many of the favored of our land could now boast ancestry of renown? It was the superiority of ploughboys over the men of distinguished ancestry, that made for our country its independence, and it would be a safe rule of conduct still to recognize them as having rights and merits. In civil life they work their way to the highest places of honor, trust, and profit. In the army and navy, if the opportunity is left them, they may possibly still fight their way to glory."

While we do not blame the President for making his selections to fill the vacancies according to the established usages of his Whig and Democratic predecessors, we are compelled to acknowledge the force of the remarks above quoted. It too frequently happens that the high respectability of the parents and the distinguished character of the ancestry of those who are chosen as cadets to West Point, has more to do with their selection than anything else. This is wrong; and we trust, in these days of progress, that a reform will commence in this matter that will tend to equalize these appointments, and make the principles upon which they are made more in accordance with the principles of republicanism and the spirit of the institutions of our country.

We have thought long and seriously on this subject, and shall, as soon as we have time and room, discuss it at length in our columns.

Hilbus & Hitz have sent us the "Philomelic Grand March," dedicated to the Philomelic Society of Georgetown College, by Pedro A. Deanas. The title of this piece is illustrated by a handsome colored lithograph of Georgetown College, and the surrounding grounds.

The printers on the Mobile Register and Advertiser have struck, and the proprietors, refusing to pay the advance asked, fill up their columns with advertisements. The price paid per thousand ems was 40 cts., and the price demanded is 50 cts.

On Thursday evening last a public meeting in favor of the Nebraska and Kansas bill, recently passed by the U. S. Senate, was held at Annapolis, at which a number of influential politicians, of both parties, made speeches.

A mass meeting of the Democracy of New York, favorable to the present administration in support of the Nebraska and Kansas bill, now before the Congress of the United States, will be held at Tammany Hall on the 16th inst. Speakers have been invited from all parts of the Union.

Some of the most beautiful specimens of Penmanship were exhibited to us to-day as the handiwork of Mr. J. D. Williams, whose advertisement will be found in another column of to-day's *Star*.

On the first page of to-day's *Star*, we commence the publication of a thrillingly interesting tale, entitled "The Assassin of the Pas de Calais."

## MISS ANNETTE INCE.

Miss Annette Ince, who has created so great a sensation among the patrons of theatres wherever she has appeared, is now in this city, and will make her appearance at the National Theatre, on Monday next, in Knowles' beautiful play of "The Hunchback," in which character she is said to be without a superior. She is one of the greatest tragediennes on the stage, and the press are loud in her praise. The Philadelphia *Sun* has the following very complimentary notice of this young lady:

"Miss ANNETTE INCE.—The series of characters assumed by this young lady, during her last week's engagement at the Walnut, evinced a talent of a high order, in the delineation of which would do credit to a veteran performer, and an intensity of feeling which shows that 'her heart is her vocation.' Had Miss Ince come with a transatlantic reputation, she would have drawn admiring and applauding crowds; but now she has a long and tedious ordeal to overcome, which is to be found in the popular prejudices against indigenous talent. She is most evidently a woman of mind, of high imagination and deep feeling, and she can discriminate most delicately between the various passions, and has the rare faculty of portraying the most intense emotions in a delicate and feminine manner. She does not 'sunder herself' in the delineation of jealousy, or the phrensy of despair, but seems clearly aware that intensity of passion is not delineated by rant or wild contortions of the body. 'Miss Ince has a bright professional future before her; if she will continue to devote herself to the drama with the same care she has commenced. She wants now the opportunity of cultivating her voice, to give it power and solidity; her tones of entreaty and pathos are exquisite sweet; there is music in her beautiful modulations, and an earnestness in her manner which will carry an audience along with her, and wind them up to a pitch of enthusiastic sympathy with her personations. In the 'torment of passion,' she is somewhat hurried, which would judge to be the effect of her organization and natural feeling, but she is always natural and ever keeps delicately and judiciously within the bounds of nature. Some of her personations, as far as conception of character goes, are faultless; and indeed there are so few evidences of the novice in all she does, that it is impossible almost to realize that she has not yet performed a dozen times. Her features are of a fine and pleasing type, and she thoroughly understands their play; her smile is pleasing and her expression of intense agony, painful in its marked and fearful fidelity."

Last week, two clerks, white men, were publicly whipped in Charleston, S. C., for stealing from their employers. They were to receive by sentence thirty-nine lashes, laid on at three times, with such intervals that their wounds should have time to heal. The first instalment consisted of twenty lashes.

The New York Tribune says "there is no doubt of the melancholy fact that a majority of the members of the house are inclined by party and sectional influences to vote for the Nebraska bill."

NEWSPAPER CHARGES.—The St. John's (N. S.) News, in an article on newspaper charges, refers to the want of consistency sometimes manifested in finding fault with prices. It says:

"A merchant has a right to charge his own price for his goods, without abatement; but a printer is thought to be a mere machine, and ought to submit to any price tendered to him. We cannot respect any man who will attempt to beat down our charges. We are above such things whenever we go to purchase an article we require. And we want to hold no business intercourse with any one who thinks that printers can serve him at his own price."

Rumors were prevalent at the Mexican capital that Walker and Roussett de Boulton had joined forces for the conquest of Sonora, and now mustered a force, made up of California filibusters, deserting sailors, and ragged Mexicans, fifteen hundred strong, which was marching on Urez, the capital of Sonora. The Sonorians are not supposed to be so well pleased with Santa Anna as to make them anxious to drive the invaders out, but are thought much more likely to receive and fraternize with them.

A boy, seventeen years of age, was shot down in the streets of Cincinnati and robbed, on the 1st inst., in the day time. Robbery seemed to be the only object for the violence. He had but two dollars with him.

## PERSONAL.

Col. F. S. Claxton has been appointed Chief Engineer of the Richmond and York River Railroad, over which honorable commission for the place. He is a son of the late Commodore Claxton, and ranks high in his profession.

The Citizen gives a history of Kirschbach, the Commander-in-Chief of the Asiatic forces, and states that he is an Irishman by birth, that his original name was Quinn, and that he was born in Limerick or thereabout. He is the same person, who, during the Hungarian struggle, served with such distinction under the name of Guyon, and at the close of the war accompanied Kosuth to Turkey. "embraced the Moslem faith, and donned the turban." Mr. Quinn's lack surprised that Mr. Paddy Murphy, the individual who married the Chinese princess!

The Mobile Register of the 34 inst. learns that Gen. Thomas D. King, elder brother of the late Vice-President, died at Tuscaloosa, on the 24th inst.

Madame Restell and Mr. Shaeffer have been released from custody by Justice Stuart, of New York, owing to the absence of Miss Grant, the prosecutrix, and the case is adjourned to the 22d inst., and probably forever.

We hear that Byron Kilbourn, Esq., has been elected mayor of Milwaukee. He is said to be an abolitionist of the first water, whose friends bought for him, in hard cash, paid down on the nail, the democratic nomination to the disgust of upright men who were cognizant of the transaction. He received the support of all the abolitionists of the city of all political hues, which more than compensated for the democrats driven off by the mendacity of the circumstances attending his nomination.

George W. Julian, late free-soil member of Congress, was stabbed in the throat at Centerville, Indiana, in a rencontre with Michael Wilson.

The Hartford (Conn.) Courant places black lines around the name of Isaac Toussy, for his vote against the Missouri line. In 1820 that same paper treated in the same way the names of Wm. Henry Harrison, and others who voted for the Missouri line.

The Whig State Convention of Iowa met at Davenport on the 1st, and put in nomination the following ticket: For Governor, J. W. Grimes; Secretary of State, Simon Waters; Auditor, Andrew J. Stevens; Treasurer, Eliza Pratt; Attorney General, James W. Sonnet.

Thomas Moly and Wm. Blackledge were hung in Waterboro', South Carolina, on Friday last, for hunting a slave down with dogs and slaying him alive.

## WASHINGTON NEWS AND GOSSIP.

The Proposed Revision of the Tariff has at length commenced to attract the attention of statesmen in legislative public life at this point, to which it is justly entitled. We have reason to believe that the great and rapidly increasing demand for custom-house agents of all sorts, occasioned by the enormous increase in the number of importers among us, which has taken place of late years, and the other difficulties and embarrassments superinduced by the current complication of the administration of our customs collecting department, growing out of this out-of-proportionate increase in the number of importers, have done their share in generating a disposition to simplify our system of duties in accordance with Secretary Guthrie's recommendation.

Thirty years ago, ships came from foreign ports assigned for the most part, each to a single house. While the number of ships so arriving have increased in ratio with the increase in our population, and the development of our resources, the number of consignees for each ship has increased, perhaps one hundred fold. Thus, in former times but one manifest was necessary to be overhauled (at the custom house) in connection with the arrival and discharge of each vessel; whereas, at this time perhaps one hundred are to be disposed of. It will be recollected that, then, the business of an importing merchant was an isolated pursuit, followed only by a few rich men, and it was rare, in the large cities, even retail dealers in every branch of business, do their own importing. We presume that even in Washington there are one hundred business houses who import direct from Europe, through agents in shipping cities. We state these facts to enable our readers to understand the immense accumulation of demands on American custom-house officers, which has taken place of late. Now, the consequence is, that Congress must either simplify our system of duties and the current rules governing the transaction of business at American custom houses, or go on doubling the number of custom-house employees everywhere about once in five years.

The English Government are well aware of the change made necessary in their customs-administration department, by the change in the system of importation referred to above, which has been marked on the other side of the Atlantic, as in the United States. They are now rigorously striving to effect this purpose of simplification at which Secretary Guthrie is understood to aim so earnestly in his recommendation in this connection.

The Disabilities of the Navy.—"One interested in the well being of the service" writes us, pointing out, in strong language, the fact, that so far as the efficiency of the Navy is concerned, it is suffering quite as much from the connection of the "coast survey" with it, as from its quasi identification with the "ocean mail steamer" business. He complains that when officers are once ordered to duty in connection with the coast survey, that's usually about the last the Navy has of them, practically—the short cruises and full pay which they enjoy in the coast survey, setting them violently against doing their legitimate share of sea duty in the regular naval service of the United States. He mentions many officers, who, having been thus employed, have been ordered to regular naval duties without avail; as they have heretofore found excuses, or means sufficiently effective to escape their share, thereafter, of what are considered the hardships of a Navy officer's life. The writer argues, very correctly, that the Navy, properly has nothing in the world to do with the "coast survey," and that all connection between them should cease as soon as possible. He says further that for some years past, no Secretary of the Navy has proved able to force obedience to his orders to Navy Officers once employed in that service, to return to their legitimate duties. We have seen enough ourselves to satisfy us that there is much truth in what he writes on the subject.

The case of the Black Warrior in Washington.—If we can believe our ears, there is no little probability that, on receiving official information from the President, announcing the facts in the case of the Black Warrior's capture, as alleged in the newspapers, Congress will promptly authorize the Chief Magistrate of the United States to suspend our neutrality laws with reference to Spain by proclamation. If the steamer and her cargo be not released by the Spanish authorities in Havana in a few hours after news of that action of Congress may reach Cuba. For the time being the anti-Spanish fever rages with great violence. Even among members regarded as Free-soilers, we hear appeals for letting the filibusters work their will on Spain's power in Cuba, at the first summons from the Cerebras of the Island. We know that some of the knowing ones have actually wagged that in sixty days, our neutrality will be thus jeopardized.

The Captain General, by his high-handed outrage, has struck a chord which promises to vibrate anything but agreeable music in the ears—that's certain. In one month after the President may be compelled to issue such a proclamation, one hundred thousand armed Americans might easily be landed from various points on our coasts, on the Island of Cuba. At present, France and England have their hands quite full at home, leaving the island practically at the mercy of American adventurers, should Congress say the word. Under the existing state of exasperation, heightened immeasurably by the too favorable opportunities for the cheap acquisition of the prize, Spain may look out for squalls. The fact that not a vote was cast yesterday against the resolution of inquiry proposed by Mr. Phillips, shows that the House are by no means indisposed to proceed at once to the subject matter, in a practical way.

The Pacific Railroad.—We have reason to believe that in another week the House select committee on the Pacific Railroad will be ready to report. They have held half-a-dozen long and earnest meetings, at which their respective views were canvassed in detail. We are inclined to think that they have, for the most part, declined to consider special projects or schemes, contenting themselves, very properly, with discussing general principles applicable to the business in hand. There are but two, or at most, three gentlemen, on the committee who have expressed themselves disposed to recommend that the Government should have nothing whatever to do with building a railroad to the Pacific. Having discovered that they are powerless in the committee, we presume, from what we learn, that these gentlemen are now acting with such of their fellow-committee men as are opposed to aiding any such work further than by donations of alternate sections of the public lands, to any company which may undertake the job. In fact, we conceive it highly probable that by this day week a plan will be agreed on to this end, which shall also expressly avoid making any recommendation as to the best route, or as to the proper parties with whom to contract. So far, only preliminary votes have been taken; yet, the members of the committee have so expressed themselves in discussing points arising, as to satisfy us that such will be the upshot of their labors, and of such will be the upshot of their labors, and of such will be the upshot of their labors.

Public Lands for Railroads.—The business of drumming for some of these schemes have apparently utterly defeated them all for the present. The Minnesota bill killed yesterday, was very generally regarded as one among the most unexceptionable of all. We thought from the early demonstrations in the hall upon it, that its success was next to certain. The voting upon the various questions (in the House hall) arising before its life was taken, however, satisfied us on the day before yesterday, that it could not become a law under any circumstances; as intimated in yesterday's *Star*. The best informed persons around us are now satisfied that no railroad land donating bill will be enacted at the present session. We are not prepared to endorse this opinion at this time, though it is very clear that the legislation on this Minnesota case augurs most unfavorably for the system. The truth is, such bills have been nursed to death—have been too well taken care of by their friends, who have managed them as though advertising to the members that they were without merits, and therefore required what many regard as questionable means to insure their success. We have so often commented upon the use of such means in Congress, upon this practical result, to render further explanations concerning them unnecessary at the present time.

The last "Muss" in the House.—The personal altercation occurring yesterday in the House Hall between Messrs. Sellers, Lane of Indiana, and Hunt, is the subject of much conversation around Washington to-day. Speculations relative to its probable results, being as various as curious. None, however, but those who constitutionally take delight in widening momentary and accidental breaches between gentlemen, being disposed to hold that it can possibly end in duels or a duel. All three of these gentlemen are proverbially high-toned and sensitive of their honor, and we are very sure that neither of them would intentionally wound the feelings of the other. Under such circumstances, the man must be blind who does not comprehend that no duel can possibly grow out of the affair. To a man up a tree, it looks as though Peter Simple's style of the duello—the triangulation—is the only one applicable.

The Reply to the Hon. Mr. Walker's Ocean Mail Steamer Resolution.—We hear that yesterday, the reply of the Secretary of the Navy to the resolution of the Hon. Mr. Walker, asking whether the Ocean Mail Steamers to be built, would be, by contract, fit for war purposes, were so built, &c., reached the House of Representatives. It will be duly laid before the House by the Speaker, probably on Monday next. In the meanwhile, we have to say that we can have no doubt that it condemns them one and all as "ships of war," and shows that the service cannot have use for any such ships, except, possibly, as transports in time of war.

Charles W. March, Esq., and the Gardiner Claim.—We have ascertained that Charles W. March, Esq., who was alleged in an article recently copied into the *Star* from the *National Democrat* of New York, to have been a recipient of a portion of the money paid under the Gardiner award, had nothing whatever to do with either with Dr. Gardiner, his money, or his case directly, or indirectly.

The Enjoined Money.—We learn from a party cognizant of the original movements of the Fillmore administration against the Gardiner fraud, that it was through Mr. Corcoran, the Washington banker, that President F. was enabled to initiate the measures which bid fair, eventually, to recover a considerable portion of the money for the Treasury.

Clerical Changes in the Pension Office.—Mr. James Orr, of Alabama, who held a \$1,200 (2d class) clerkship has resigned. Mr. Lucien Peyton, of Virginia, a per diem clerk, promoted to a (2d class) \$1,200 clerkship, made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Orr.

A Clerical Reorganization and Appointment in the Third Auditor's Office.—H. Clay Davis of Ill., has resigned his \$1000 per annum clerkship in this office, and Thomas W. Blount, of Fla., has been appointed in his stead.

The Current Operations of the Treasury Department.—On yesterday, the 10th of March, there were of Treasury Warrants entered on the books of the Department—

For the redemption of stocks.....	\$45,746 49
For the payment of other Treasury.....	2,013 21
For the Customs.....	15,100 81
Covered into the Treasury from Customs.....	319,553 44
Covered into the Treasury from miscellaneous sources.....	170 76
For funding under the act of Jan. 28, 1847.....	100 00
For the War Department.....	36,975 30
For re-paying for the War Department.....	315 48
For the Navy Department.....	32,853 44
For the Interior Department.....	31,322 92

SENATE.—Yesterday, several private and other bills were passed, among which were—A bill for the purchase of the copyright of the *Illustrated London*, by Mr. Sumner, wherein he describes his new method of ascertaining a ship's position at sea. A bill authorizing the use in the surveys of the United States of Burt's solar compass.

The bill on the subject of the Kokook and Dubuque, in Iowa, ports of delivery. After an executive session, the Senate adjourned till Monday.

In the House, yesterday, after we went to press, they went into Committee of the Whole on the Private Calendar. Mr. Campbell in the chair. The bill for the relief of the widow of Elijah Beebe being taken up, Mr. Orr explained the bill, and Mr. Phillips moved for its passage. Mr. Phillips then addressed the committee in favor of the bill, and discussed remarks made by Mr. Sellers, in that gentleman's speech. In the course of these proceedings, Mr. L. and Mr. Phillips entered into a verbal altercation, in which Mr. Hunt also participated. Just before the disagreeable consequences arising from this misunderstanding the committee rose.

Mr. Stanton, of Tenn., then, by leave, reported for the War Department, a resolution relating to the clothing of the soldiers for persons and papers in order to examine into any alleged fraudulent claims paid under awards of the Mexican Claims Commission, passing the Gardiner and Mears claims. Mr. L. explained that responsible parties had indicated to the committee that there was testimony to be had under such proceedings, invalidating the integrity of the testimony on which other claims so paid were passed.

Mr. Leitch opposed the bill at some length. Mr. Lane then expressed himself in favor of the bill, and discussed remarks made by Mr. Sellers, in that gentleman's speech. In the course of these proceedings, Mr. L. and Mr. Phillips entered into a verbal altercation, in which Mr. Hunt also participated. Just before the disagreeable consequences arising from this misunderstanding the committee rose.

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